



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, JULY 29, 1988

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GOVT EFFORTS TO PROMOTE SAFETY IN TRANSIT SERVICE AREA

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AS PART OF A CO-ORDINATED EFFORT BY THE GOVERNMENT TO ENHANCE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SAFETY MESSAGE, A 30-SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST WILL BE BROADCAST ON TELEVISION FROM TOMORROW, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

"GET TO KNOW THE NEW ROAD SIGNS AND MARKINGS", "OBSERVE THE TRAFFIC LIGHTS" AND "CROSS AT PROPER CROSSINGS" ARE THE MAIN MESSAGES.

TWO SEPARATE RADIO MESSAGES, ONE TARGETTED AT MOTORISTS AND THE OTHER AT PEDESTRIANS, ARE AIRED ON RADIO FROM TODAY. THE GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO PRODUCE SLIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS TO BE SHOWN IN CINEMAS IN TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG TO FURTHER PUBLICISE THE SAFETY RULES.

"AS THE LRT SYSTEM IS A NEW MODE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN HONG KONG, THE GOVERNMENT FEELS THAT IT IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE THAT BOTH MOTORISTS AND PEDESTRIANS ARE WELL AWARE OF THE NEW TRAFFIC SIGNS AND ROAD MARKINGS IN THE TRANSIT SERVICE AREA TO ENSURE SAFETY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS PRODUCED A LEAFLET TO EXPLAIN THE NEW ROAD SIGNS AND ROAD MARKINGS IN THE AREA AND TO URGE MOTORISTS AND PEDESTRIANS TO OBEY THE TRAFFIC LIGHTS AND TRAFFIC SIGNS AND NOT TO TRESPASS INTO THE LIGHT RAIL RESERVE AREA.

PEDESTRIANS ARE URGED TO USE PROPER CROSSINGS AND NEARBY FOOTBRIDGES FOR CROSSING THE LRT TRACKS.

THE LEAFLET WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO RESIDENTS IN TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG THROUGH THE TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE POLICE.

THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE ROAD SAFETY QUARTERLY, A PUBLICATION PRODUCED BY THE ROAD SAFETY COUNCIL, ALSO FEATURES LRT SAFETY. COPIES OF THE QUARTERLY WILL BE AVAILABLE SHORTLY FOR DISTRIBUTION TO MOTORISTS, PEDESTRIANS AND SCHOOL CHILDREN.

MEANWHILE, A FIVE-MINUTE PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMME, "METRORAMA", JOINTLY PRODUCED BY THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AND RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG WILL ALSO FEATURE LRT SAFETY.

FILMING HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND THE SPECIAL EPISODE WILL BE SHOWN ON THE TWO TELEVISION STATIONS ON AUGUST 22 AND AUGUST 27.

LRT SAFETY HAS BEEN PUBLICISED IN THE ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGNS ORGANISED BY THE TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG DISTRICT BOARDS.

/THE ROAD

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THE ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN BY TUEN MUN DB WAS LAUNCHED ON JULY 9 AND WOULD LAST TILL MARCH NEXT YEAR. ON JULY 9, AN "LRT VILLAGE STATIONS OPEN DAY" WAS LAUNCHED TO PROMOTE THE SAFE USE OF THE LRT.

THE ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN ORGANISED BY YUEN LONG DB IS AN ONGOING EXERCISE WITH THE MAJOR ACTIVITIES TAKING PLACE AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

THE ROAD SAFETY BUS OF THE POLICE WILL VISIT HOUSING ESTATES AND ORGANISATIONS IN TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG SHORTLY TO PUBLICISE THE SAFETY MESSAGE.

THESE PROMOTIONAL EFFORTS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED AND AGREED WITH THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION AT A JOINT COMMITTEE ON ROAD SAFETY CHAIRED BY THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT (NEW TERRITORIES).

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ROADWORKS FOR LRT RESERVE

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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO CARRY OUT ROADWORKS ALONG THE EASTERN SIDE OF CASTLE PEAK ROAD, IN CONNECTION WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT RESERVE AT PRIME VIEW GARDEN.

THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT RESERVE FORMS PART OF THE TOWN CENTRE TO TUEN MUN (NORTH-EAST) REGIONAL LINK OF THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM.

THE WORKS INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW FOOTWAYS, ASSOCIATED DRAINAGE WORKS AND OTHER ANCILLARY WORKS ALONGSIDE THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT RESERVE.

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL WERE PUBLISHED IN A NOTICE IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY) AND A NOTICE, IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, CAN BE SEEN ON THE NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITE OF THE PROPOSED WORKS.

THE PLAN OF THE PROPOSED WORKS CAN BE SEEN AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG.

IT CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, TUEN MUN, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SIXTH FLOOR, 1 TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN; AND AT THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

ANY PERSON WHO OBJECTS TO THE PROPOSAL SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NOT LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 27 THIS YEAR.

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POLLING STATIONS, POLLING HOURS GAZETTED
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LISTS OF POLLING STATIONS AND POLLING HOURS DESIGNATED FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS ON SEPTEMBER 22 ARE PUBLISHED IN A GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE REGISTRATION OFFICER OF THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, MR LAI KWAN-TAT, SAID THERE WOULD BE ONE VENUE FOR EACH OF THE 12 ELECTORAL COLLEGE CONSTITUENCIES TO SERVE AS BOTH POLLING STATION AND COUNTING STATION.

FOR THE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES THERE WOULD BE 10 VENUES FOR CORPORATE ELECTORS AND 41 FOR INDIVIDUAL ELECTORS, MR LAI ADDED.

POLLING HOURS FOR THE 10 DISTRICT BOARD CONSTITUENCIES WHICH FORM PART OF THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE CONSTITUENCIES ARE BETWEEN 10 AM AND 11 AM, WHILE THOSE FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COUNCIL CONSTITUENCIES ARE BETWEEN 2.30 PM AND 3.30 PM.

FOR THE COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, FINANCE, LABOUR AND SOCIAL SERVICES FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES, THE POLLING HOURS ARE FROM 9 AM TO 7 PM.

LONGER HOURS, FROM 9 AM TO 10 PM, ARE PROVIDED FOR THE ACCOUNTANCY, MEDICAL, TEACHING, LEGAL, HEALTH CARE AND ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURAL, SURVEYING AND PLANNING FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES.

ONE CENTRAL COUNTING STATION WILL BE ESTABLISHED AT QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM FOR ALL FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES AND ELECTION RESULTS WILL BE DECLARED THERE.

REGISTERED ELECTORS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF WHERE AND WHEN THEY ARE TO VOTE DURING THE ELECTIONS BY THE ISSUE OF POLL CARDS BY THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION AROUND SEPTEMBER 8.

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TIGHTER CONTROL ON ENDANGERED SPECIES ANNOUNCED
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LICENSING CONTROL WILL SOON BE INTRODUCED, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HONG KONG, ON THE IMPORT OF ALL FORMS OF WORKED IVORY AS HONG KONG'S CONTRIBUTION TO A WORLDWIDE EFFORT IN SAVING ELEPHANTS FROM EXTINCTION.

THE NEW CONTROL MEASURE WILL TAKE EFFECT NEXT FRIDAY (AUGUST 5) BY A NOTICE IN THE GAZETTE.

/FROM THE

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FROM THE SAME DATE, NO SHIPMENT OF WORKED IVORY WILL BE ALLOWED INTO HONG KONG UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY A VALID IMPORT LICENCE WHICH MUST BE APPLIED FOR, AND OBTAINED IN ADVANCE, FROM THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUPPORTED BY VALID DOCUMENTS INCLUDING EXPORT PERMITS FROM THE AUTHORITIES OF THE EXPORTING COUNTRIES AND OTHER DOCUMENTARY PROOF OF ACQUISITION FROM SOURCES APPROVED BY THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES).

THE NEW MEASURE ARISES FROM THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE (REPLACEMENT OF SCHEDULES) ORDER 1988 WHICH WAS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL EARLIER THIS WEEK.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (FRIDAY), THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (CONSERVATION AND COUNTRY PARKS) OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, MR FRANK LAU, SAID THE EXISTING LAW PROVIDED FOR THE CONTROL OF THE IMPORT AND EXPORT OF UNWORKED AND SIMPLY PREPARED IVORY TUSKS FROM ALL SPECIES OF ELEPHANTS BUT DID NOT PROVIDE FOR CONTROL OF IVORY BEYOND SIMPLE PREPARATION.

"THERE HAVE BEEN INDICATIONS SINCE 1987 THAT UNSCRUPULOUS IVORY TRADERS IN THE MIDDLE EAST ARE EXPLOITING THIS LOOPHOLE IN THE EXISTING LAW BY IMPORTING INTO HONG KONG WORKED OR SEMI-WORKED IVORY ITEMS OF DUBIOUS ORIGIN AND DISGUIISING THEM AS LOCALLY CARVED IVORY FOR RE-EXPORT," MR LAU SAID.

"THIS 'LAUNDERING' HAS CAUSED CONCERN BOTH LOCALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT DECLARED THAT IT WOULD BAN THE IMPORT OF ALL IVORY, IN WHATEVER FORM, FROM COUNTRIES WHICH IMPORT SUCH ITEMS.

"FURTHERMORE, AT THE 1987 CITES CONFERENCE HELD IN CANADA, A RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED URGING PARTIES TO TIGHTEN THE CONTROL OF WORKED IVORY.

"THE NEW CONTROL BEING INTRODUCED IN HONG KONG WILL MEET HONG KONG'S INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS AND SAVE THE LOCAL IVORY TRADE FROM A TOTAL BAN ON IVORY EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES, HONG KONG'S LARGEST EXPORT MARKET, WHICH WOULD IN TURN LEAD TO CONSIDERABLE JOB LOSSES."

MR LAU POINTED OUT THAT THERE HAD BEEN INCREASES IN WORKED IVORY IMPORTS INTO HONG KONG IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, WITH THE VALUE OF THESE IMPORTS BEING \$55 MILLION IN 1986 AND \$61 MILLION LAST YEAR.

HE SAID THE TIGHTER CONTROL OF IVORY ON THE BASIS OF THE CURRENT LEVEL OF IMPORTS WAS ESTIMATED TO REQUIRE OVER 1,200 WORKED IVORY SHIPMENTS TO BE INSPECTED EACH YEAR.

/THE NEW

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THE NEW CONTROL IS AMONG A SERIES OF CHANGES MADE TO THE FIRST, SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH SCHEDULES OF THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE IN LINE WITH THE UPDATED LISTS ADOPTED BY CITES.

THE MAIN CHANGES TO THE FIRST SCHEDULE ARE THE INCLUSION IN THE LIST OF SCHEDULED SPECIES OF ALL CRANES, HUMMINGBIRDS, BUSTARDS, AND GIANT CLAMS, AND THE ADDITION OF NINE SPECIES OF FRUIT BATS, 50 SPECIES OF POISON DART FROGS, NINE SPECIES OF BUTTERFLIES, 17 GENERA OF CORALS AND 41 SPECIES OF LITTLE AGATE SNAILS.

IN ADDITION, PAMPAS FOX, FENNEC, BLACK MUNTJAC, TAKIN AND PECCARIES ARE ALSO ADDED TO THE LIST.

THE REVISIONS TO THE SECOND AND THIRD SCHEDULES INCLUDE CARVED PRODUCTS OF RHINO HORN, WHALE TEETH, SEA TURTLE SHELL AND MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS OF A NUMBER OF HIGHLY ENDANGERED SPECIES SUCH AS LEOPARD FUR COAT AND SEA TURTLE SPECTACLE FRAMES, AS WELL AS 71 SPECIES OF PITCHER PLANT.

"ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC OR TRADER IN POSSESSION OF THESE SPECIES OF ENDANGERED ANIMALS AND PLANTS ON AND AFTER AUGUST 5 WILL BE GIVEN THREE MONTHS TO OBTAIN A VALID POSSESSION LICENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT," MR LAU SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT POSSESSION OF SCHEDULED SPECIES WITHOUT A VALID LICENCE WAS AN OFFENCE PUNISHABLE WITH A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5,000 PLUS MANDATORY FORFEITURE OF THE SPECIES.

PUNISHMENT FOR A REPEATED OFFENCE WAS A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$10,000 PLUS SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.

CHANGES TO THE FOURTH SCHEDULE INVOLVE THE REVISION OF THE FEES SET IN 1976 FOR THE ISSUE OF LICENCES FOR THE IMPORT, EXPORT AND POSSESSION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES WITH EFFECT FROM THE SAME DATE.

THE FEES FOR IMPORT AND EXPORT LICENCES FOR ANIMAL PARTS AND DERIVATIVES OR PLANTS OR PLANT DERIVATIVES WILL BE INCREASED FROM THE EXISTING LEVEL OF \$10 TO A FLAT RATE OF \$50.

THE FEES FOR THE IMPORT OF LIVE ANIMALS WILL INCREASE FROM \$260 TO \$300 WHILE FEES FOR POSSESSION WILL GENERALLY INCREASE FROM \$10 TO \$55.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE NEW CONTROL MEASURE AND CHANGES TO VARIOUS SCHEDULES OF THE ORDINANCE CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE DEPARTMENT'S FAUNA CONSERVATION SECTION ON 3-7332123 OR 3-7332124.

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BAN ON LOCAL SALE OF RHINO HORN AND HIDE

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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE INTERNAL SALE OF RHINO HORN AND HIDE IN HONG KONG WILL CEASE TO BE PERMITTED FROM SUNDAY (JULY 31).

AS FROM MONDAY (AUGUST 1), NO NEW LICENCES WILL BE GRANTED FOR THE POSSESSION OF HORN AND HIDE OF ALL RHINO SPECIES WHICH ARE CLASSIFIED AS HIGHLY ENDANGERED BY THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES).

A SPECIAL CONDITION WILL BE PRESCRIBED IN EXISTING POSSESSION LICENCES PROHIBITING TRANSFER AS FROM THE SAME DATE TO EFFECT PROHIBITION UNDER THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE.

THE MOVE WAS INTRODUCED IN CONFORMITY WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY CITES, FOR A COMPLETE PROHIBITION ON ALL TRADE IN RHINO HORN AND RHINO HORN PRODUCTS INCLUDING INTERNAL RETAIL SALES IN HONG KONG.

ANNOUNCING THE PROHIBITION, THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (CONSERVATION AND COUNTRY PARKS), MR FRANK LAU, SAID: "HONG KONG HAS TOTALLY BANNED THE IMPORT AND EXPORT OF RHINO HORN AND HIDE UNDER EXISTING LAW.

"NO IMPORT HAS BEEN AUTHORISED SINCE THE IMPORT BAN IN 1979. THE STOCK OF RHINO HORN AND HIDE IMPORTED BEFORE THE BAN RECORDED AT THAT TIME AMOUNTED TO 2,167 KG OF HORN INCLUDING CHIPS AND PIECES, AND 1,744 KG OF HIDE.

"RE-EXPORT AND LOCAL CONSUMPTION OF THE PRE-CONVENTION STOCK HAD GRADUALLY REDUCED EVEN BEFORE THE EXPORT BAN IMPOSED IN 1986.

"AT THE END OF 1987, THE REMAINING STOCKS ARE 41 KG OF HORN AND 230 KG OF HIDE, AND THE STOCK RECORDED YESTERDAY ONLY REMAINED AT 3.8 KG OF HORN AND 11.4 KG OF HIDE."

TO PREPARE FOR THE MOVE, MR LAU SAID, TRADERS HAD BEEN ADVISED IN FEBRUARY LAST YEAR AND AGAIN IN MAY THIS YEAR TO DISPOSE OF THEIR EXISTING STOCK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THE CONTROL WOULD BE FURTHER STRENGTHENED LATER THIS YEAR BY PROHIBITING THE IMPORT, EXPORT, POSSESSION AND LOCAL SALE OF ALL MEDICINAL PRODUCTS CLAIMING TO CONTAIN RHINO INGREDIENTS, HE ADDED.

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SOUTHERN WATERS DECLARED CONTROL ZONE

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THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE WATERS OF HONG KONG WAS DECLARED A WATER CONTROL ZONE UNDER THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL (SOUTHERN WATER CONTROL ZONE) ORDER 1988 GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE ORDER, MADE UNDER THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ORDINANCE, WAS AIMED AT COMBATTING THE INCREASING PROBLEM OF MICROBIAL POLLUTION IN BATHING BEACHES IN THE SOUTHERN WATERS OF HONG KONG CAUSED MAINLY BY DISCHARGE OF SEWAGE.

THE SOUTHERN WATER CONTROL ZONE STATEMENT OF WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES, ALSO GAZETTED TODAY, SETS OUT THE WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE SOUTHERN WATER CONTROL ZONE.

"THESE OBJECTIVES ARE SO DEFINED THAT THE EXISTING AND DESIRED BENEFICIAL USES OF THE SOUTHERN WATERS SUCH AS SWIMMING, FISH CULTURE, AND SECONDARY CONTACT RECREATION (FOR EXAMPLE WATER SKIING, BOATING, CANOEING) ARE SAFEGUARDED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE SOUTHERN WATER CONTROL ZONE INCLUDES BOTH INLAND AND MARINE WATER BODIES IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF LANTAU AND HONG KONG ISLAND, AND ALL THE OUTLYING ISLANDS IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF HONG KONG.

SEWAGE FROM ALL SOURCES WILL BE SUBJECT TO CONTROL UNDER THE LEGISLATION, EXCEPT THAT ARISING FROM INDUSTRIAL PREMISES AND THAT DISCHARGED TO PUBLIC FOUL SEWERS.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENTS WERE EXCLUDED FROM CONTROL IN LINE WITH AN AGREEMENT REACHED WITH THE OMELCO ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS PANEL THAT NO FURTHER WATER POLLUTION CONTROLS WOULD BE IMPOSED ON INDUSTRY UNTIL THE IMPACT OF THE CONTROLS IN TOLO HARBOUR HAD BEEN ASSESSED.

"THIS LIMITATION IS NOT EXPECTED TO DETRACT SERIOUSLY FROM THE SOUTHERN WATER CONTROL ZONE EXERCISE, AS THERE ARE FEW INDUSTRIAL PREMISES IN THE AREA," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

UNDER THE LEGISLATION, A LICENCE WILL BE REQUIRED FOR A DISCHARGE OF SEWAGE WHICH BEGINS AFTER AUGUST 1 THIS YEAR.

ALL EXISTING DISCHARGES -- THOSE THAT BEGAN ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1 -- MAY BE EXEMPT IF THE GOVERNMENT IS NOTIFIED OF THE DETAILS BY APRIL 1 NEXT YEAR, PROVIDING THE DISCHARGE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A DANGER TO PUBLIC HEALTH.

IT IS INTENDED THAT THESE MEASURES SHOULD BRING ABOUT IMPROVEMENTS TO WATER QUALITY AT BEACHES BEFORE THE NEXT BATHING SEASON.

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COMMITTEE CONSIDERS ISSUE OF ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION BY DONOR

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MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENTIFICALLY ASSISTED HUMAN REPRODUCTION CONSIDERED THE ISSUE OF ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION BY DONOR (AID) AT THE COMMITTEE'S FIFTH MEETING HELD TODAY (FRIDAY).

"IN ORDER TO HAVE AN IN-DEPTH UNDERSTANDING ON THE ISSUE OF AID, MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE HAD MADE A FAMILIARISATION VISIT TO THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION'S AID SERVICE CENTRE AND SEMEN BANK AT MA TAU CHUNG ON JULY 8," THE COMMITTEE'S CHAIRMAN, DR C.H. LEONG, SAID.

HAVING CONSIDERED THE SOCIAL, MORAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL AND LEGAL FACTORS, MEMBERS GENERALLY AGREED AT THE MEETING THAT SINCE AID HAD BEEN PRACTISED IN HONG KONG FOR OVER A DECADE, IS ARRANGED ON THE AGREEMENT OF THE MARRIED COUPLE, AND SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE LOCAL POPULATION, IT SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE.

THE COMMITTEE, HOWEVER, CONSIDERED THAT CHILDREN BORN BY AID SHOULD BE PROTECTED BECAUSE UNDER EXISTING LAW, THESE CHILDREN MAY BE TECHNICALLY ILLEGITIMATE AND THE PARENTS ARE ADVISED TO GO THROUGH A PROCESS OF ADOPTING THEM AFTER BIRTH.

MEMBERS CONSIDERED THAT THE CURRENT SITUATION IS UNSATISFACTORY AND SOME LEGISLATIVE MEASURES ALONG THE LINES OF THE FAMILY LAW REFORM ACT 1987, WHICH PROVIDED THAT A CHILD BY AID SHALL BE TREATED IN LAW AS THE CHILD OF THE PARENT, SHOULD BE INTRODUCED.

ON CONFIDENTIALITY, THE COMMITTEE AGREED THAT CONFIDENTIALITY ON DONORS SHOULD BE MAINTAINED. AS FAR AS THE AID CHILD IS CONCERNED, MEMBERS CONSIDERED THAT ON REACHING THE AGE OF CAPACITY, THE CHILD, IF HE HAS COME TO THE KNOWLEDGE THAT HE HAS BEEN CONCEIVED BY AID AND WISHES TO KNOW, HE SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT OF VERIFICATION.

MEMBERS ALSO CONSIDERED THE COMMENTS AND OPINIONS RECEIVED BY THE COMMITTEE IN MONITORING MEDIA REACTIONS OR THEIR DIALOGUES WITH CONCERNED GROUPS SINCE THE LAST MEETING.

"THE COMMITTEE CONTINUES TO WELCOME VIEWS FROM THE PUBLIC ON THEIR PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS ON SURROGACY, ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION BY DONOR," DR LEONG SAID.

"ANY COMMENTS AND OPINIONS CAN BE SENT TO US THROUGH THE HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG," HE SAID.

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\$19.1 MILLION IN GRANTS TO FIVE ARTS ORGANISATIONS

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THE COUNCIL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS HAS ADVISED THE GOVERNMENT TO AWARD JUST OVER \$19.1 MILLION AS GENERAL SUPPORT GRANTS TO FIVE LOCAL PROFESSIONAL PERFORMING ARTS ORGANISATIONS TO MEET PART OF THEIR RECURRENT COSTS FOR THE 1988-89 FINANCIAL YEAR.

THE FIVE ORGANISATIONS ARE:

- * THE HONG KONG PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY LIMITED - ITS HONG KONG PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA BEING THE LEADING WESTERN STYLE CLASSICAL ORCHESTRA IN HONG KONG;
- * THE CHUNG YING THEATRE COMPANY, A FULL-TIME PROFESSIONAL AND INDEPENDENT DRAMA COMPANY;
- * THE CITY CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY, HONG KONG'S PREMIER MODERN DANCE COMPANY;
- * THE HONG KONG BALLET LIMITED, HONG KONG'S PREMIER CLASSICAL DANCE COMPANY; AND
- * THE HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL SOCIETY LIMITED WHICH ANNUALLY ORGANISES THE HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL.

THE GRANTS ALLOCATED TO EACH OF THE FIVE ORGANISATIONS ARE:

HONG KONG PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY LIMITED	\$ 9.932 MILLION
CHUNG YING THEATRE COMPANY	\$ 2.941 MILLION
CITY CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY	\$ 1.553 MILLION
HONG KONG BALLET LIMITED	\$ 2.799 MILLION
HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL SOCIETY LIMITED	\$ 1.940 MILLION
TOTAL :	\$19.165 MILLION

WITH THESE GRANTS, THE FIVE ORGANISATIONS WILL BE ABLE TO PUT ON NEW PRODUCTIONS AND STAGE MORE PERFORMANCES FOR THE PUBLIC IN THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR.

THE HONG KONG PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY LIMITED WILL STAGE A TOTAL OF 113 PERFORMANCES, OF WHICH 65 ARE TO BE TICKETED PUBLIC, AND FOUR FREE PUBLIC PERFORMANCES. THERE WILL ALSO BE 44 SCHOOL CONCERTS AS WELL AS 37 CLASSES AND TALKS.

/THE CHUNG

THE CHUNG YING THEATRE COMPANY WILL PUT ON FIVE NEW PRODUCTIONS AND FIVE RE-RUNS, WITH A TOTAL OF 183 PERFORMANCES COMPRISING 62 TICKETED PUBLIC AND 121 SCHOOL PERFORMANCES.

THE NEW PRODUCTIONS INCLUDE "THE LEGEND OF THE DRAGON PEARL", "HONG KONG DREAM", "LOOKING FOR A MAN", A PRODUCTION FOR THE 1989 HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL AND A TOURING SHOW FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

THE RE-RUN PRODUCTIONS ARE "A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM", "LIFE'S THEATRE", "MONSTER MAN", "A DANGEROUS GAME" AND "PINOCCHIO" WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED IN BOTH CANTONESE AND ENGLISH.

THE CITY CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY WILL PUT ON NINE PRODUCTIONS, STAGING ALTOGETHER 78 PERFORMANCES, MADE UP OF 24 SCHOOL AND 54 LOCAL PUBLIC PERFORMANCES.

THE PRODUCTIONS INCLUDE "STORIES", "SEVEN DEADLY SINS", "SOIREE", "HAMLET'S NEWSPAPER", "ANCESTRAL ABANDON", AND "ALIVE".

ADDITIONAL CONTEMPORARY DANCE PERFORMANCES WILL BE STAGED DURING THE ASIAN ARTS FESTIVAL IN OCTOBER.

THE HONG KONG BALLET LIMITED WILL STAGE 185 PERFORMANCES MADE UP OF 69 TICKETED PUBLIC, 16 FREE PUBLIC AND 100 SCHOOL PERFORMANCES.

PROGRAMMES PERFORMED WILL INCLUDE "GISELLE", "NUTCRACKER", "COPPELIA" AND "MIXED BILL".

DANCE PERFORMANCES WILL ALSO BE STAGED DURING THE ASIAN ARTS FESTIVAL AND THE HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL.

THE HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL SOCIETY LIMITED WILL ORGANISE THE 1989 HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL IN WHICH RENOWNED LOCAL AND OVERSEAS ARTISTS WILL PERFORM.

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HOSPITAL AND CLINIC FEES TO INCREASE

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GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL AND CLINIC FEES AND CHARGES WILL BE INCREASED WITH EFFECT FROM AUGUST 8 THIS YEAR, THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED THAT THE REVISION OF MEDICAL FEES IS AN ANNUAL EXERCISE AND THAT PATIENTS WILL CONTINUE TO ENJOY A HEAVY SUBSIDY FROM THE GOVERNMENT.

FOR GENERAL HOSPITALS, THE DAILY CHARGE FOR A PUBLIC WARD BED WILL INCREASE BY \$3 TO \$26. THE GOVERNMENT IS ACTUALLY SPENDING ON AVERAGE ABOUT \$1,000 FOR THE DAILY MAINTENANCE OF A BED IN THE REGIONAL HOSPITALS.

/THE CHARGE

THE CHARGE OF \$26 WILL COVER FOOD, DRUGS, LABORATORY TESTS, SURGERY AND ALL MEDICAL TREATMENT.

FOR PATIENTS WITH GENUINE HARDSHIPS, HOSPITAL CHARGES CAN BE WAIVED PARTIALLY OR IN FULL.

FOR FIRST AND SECOND CLASS WARD PATIENTS, THE NEW FEES WILL RISE FROM \$900 AND \$600 TO \$1,060 AND \$705 RESPECTIVELY.

CHARGES FOR SPECIAL CLASS BEDS IN TSAN YUK HOSPITAL WILL ALSO BE REVISED TO \$620 FROM \$460.

PATIENTS IN THE FIRST AND SECOND CLASS WARDS OF THE TWO MENTAL HOSPITALS - CASTLE PEAK AND KWAI CHUNG - WILL CONTINUE TO PAY THE EXISTING FEES OF \$260 AND \$175.

FOR OUT-PATIENT SERVICES, THE ATTENDANCE FEES IN GENERAL CLINICS WILL RISE FROM \$12 TO \$13 PER VISIT WHILE THAT FOR THE SPECIALIST CLINICS WILL BE REVISED FROM \$18 TO \$20.

PATIENTS ATTENDING THE GERIATRIC AND PSYCHIATRIC DAY CENTRES WILL HAVE TO PAY \$21 INSTEAD OF \$18. THE SAME FEE WILL BE APPLIED TO THE COMMUNITY NURSING SERVICES.

NON-ENTITLED PATIENTS WHO ARE NOT HOLDING A HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD OR A BRITISH PASSPORT WILL CONTINUE TO PAY THE FULL COST OF THE MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND CLINICS.

THE CHARGE FOR NON-ENTITLED PATIENTS STAYING IN HOSPITALS WILL RISE TO \$1,065 PER DAY COMPARED TO THE EXISTING \$950.

THOSE ATTENDING THE GENERAL CLINICS AND SPECIALIST CLINICS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY \$65 AND \$190 PER VISIT RESPECTIVELY AND THE FEES ARE EXCLUSIVE OF DRUGS, X-RAY AND LABORATORY TESTS.

FOR COMMUNITY NURSING VISITS, THE CHARGES FOR NON-ENTITLED PATIENTS WILL RISE TO \$210 AND \$660 FOR GENERAL NURSING AND PSYCHIATRIC NURSING RESPECTIVELY.

THE DEPARTMENT ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT WITH EFFECT FROM AUGUST 8 CHARGES WILL BE INTRODUCED TO THE EXISTING FREE CLINICS IN RURAL DISTRICTS.

OUT-PATIENTS ATTENDING THE HELICOPTER MEDICAL SERVICE, AND 14 OTHER CLINICS, INCLUDING THE THREE FLOATING CLINICS, IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND OUTLYING ISLANDS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE SAME FEES AS THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN THE URBAN AREAS.

PATIENTS WITH FINANCIAL HARDSHIPS WILL HAVE THEIR CHARGES WAIVED PARTIALLY OR IN FULL.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF CHARGES AT THE FREE CLINICS IS AIMED AT REGULARISING THE COLLECTION OF FEES IN PUBLIC CLINICS.

FLEXITIME BENEFICIAL TO EMPLOYERS, WORKERS

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR TONY HAMMOND, TODAY (FRIDAY) CALLED ON EMPLOYERS TO CONSIDER SERIOUSLY THE ADVANTAGES OF INTRODUCING FLEXIBLE WORKING HOURS IN THEIR FACTORIES AND OFFICES.

HE SAID MORE FLEXIBLE WORKING HOURS WOULD BENEFIT EMPLOYEES WITHOUT INCURRING ANY ADDITIONAL COST TO THE EMPLOYER.

"THIS WILL IN TURN INCREASE THE ABILITY OF THE COMPANY TO RECRUIT AND TO RETAIN EMPLOYEES.

"IT IS, THEREFORE, AN ARRANGEMENT WHICH IS BENEFICIAL TO BOTH THE EMPLOYER AND THE EMPLOYEES," HE SAID.

MR HAMMOND WAS SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION OF THE SECOND CERTIFICATE COURSE ON LABOUR RELATIONS AND LABOUR LEGISLATION JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG AND THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

THE TRADITIONAL OPENING AND CLOSING HOURS OF AN OFFICE OR A FACTORY WERE OFTEN TAKEN FOR GRANTED, HE SAID.

EVERY MORNING, THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE POURED INTO CENTRAL DISTRICT, OR MAJOR INDUSTRIAL AREAS SUCH AS KWUN TONG AND SAN PO KONG, TO GET TO WORK ALL AT THE SAME TIME.

OFFICE AND FACTORY WORKERS NOT ONLY HAD TO STRUGGLE THROUGH THE TRAFFIC CONGESTION BUT ALSO HAD TO FIGHT THEIR WAY INTO ALREADY OVERLOADED LIFTS IN ORDER NOT TO BE LATE AND NOT LOSE THEIR ATTENDANCE BONUS, THUS CAUSING DISCOMFORT AND DANGER TO THEIR COLLEAGUES.

"THESE PROBLEMS OF CONGESTION CAN IN FACT BE AVOIDED IF THE MANAGEMENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE EMPLOYEES, INTRODUCES A MORE FLEXIBLE SYSTEM OF WORKING HOURS," MR HAMMOND SAID.

"THE MOST STRAIGHTFORWARD ARRANGEMENT IS TO PUT FORWARD OR PUT BACK THE WORKING HOURS BY 15 OR 30 MINUTES.

"THE EMPLOYEES WOULD NOT THEN FIND IT SO NECESSARY TO FIGHT THEIR WAY IN TO BUSES, TRAINS AND LIFTS."

ANOTHER ARRANGEMENT, HE SAID, WOULD BE TO ALLOW DIFFERENT SECTIONS OR DIFFERENT ASSEMBLY LINES TO CHOOSE THEIR OWN WORKING HOURS WITHIN SPECIFIED LIMITS.

THIS WOULD HELP TO AVOID THE CHAOS AND CONFUSION CAUSED BY PEOPLE FIGHTING THEIR WAY TO THE CLOCK-IN OR CLOCK-OUT MACHINE.

/AND, IN

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AND, IN SOME MODERN OFFICES, APART FROM A CORE PERIOD DURING WHICH ALL STAFF HAD TO BE ON DUTY WHEN THE COMPANY'S ACTIVITIES WERE AT THEIR PEAK, INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYEES COULD START THE DAY AT ANY TIME CONVENIENT TO THEM.

"IF THEY CAN COMPLETE 44 HOURS WORK IN FIVE DAYS, THEY CAN HAVE A LONG WEEKEND," HE SAID.

"SUCH ARRANGEMENTS HELP TO ELIMINATE ABSENTEEISM AND IMPROVE PRODUCTIVITY AS WELL AS SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF CONGESTION."

TURNING TO LABOUR RELATIONS, MR HAMMOND POINTED OUT THAT THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WAS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE PROMOTION OF GOOD MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S LABOUR RELATIONS PROMOTION UNIT HAD BEEN STEPPING UP ITS EFFORTS IN ORGANISING SEMINARS AND TALKS ON THE SUBJECT.

DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, THE NUMBER OF SEMINARS AND TALKS ORGANISED BY THE UNIT ALONE, OR JOINTLY WITH OTHER INTERESTED ORGANISATIONS, INCREASED DRAMATICALLY COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

THE NUMBER OF VISITS TO EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS ALSO ROSE SUBSTANTIALLY.

"I ASSURE YOU THAT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE LABOUR RELATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD, THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO STEP UP ITS PROMOTIONAL EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN LABOUR AND MANAGEMENT," HE ADDED.

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DCP ADDRESSES CONFERENCE IN TORONTO

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A LARGE CONTINGENT OF RETIRED HONG KONG POLICE OFFICERS NOW RESIDENT IN CANADA TURNED OUT TO GREET DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, OPERATIONS, MR LI KWAN-HA, WHEN HE VISITED TORONTO RECENTLY TO ADDRESS THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT INTELLIGENCE UNIT.

NOT ONLY FROM TORONTO BUT ALSO FROM QUEBEC, MONTREAL AND OTHER CITIES, OLD COMRADES AND THEIR WIVES GAVE A HEARTY WELCOME TO MR LI. SOME OF THEM WEARING THE BLAZERS AND TIES OF THEIR OLD FORCE.

"IT WAS A VERY HAPPY REUNION," SAID MR LI. "I MET SO MANY OLD FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES AND WE ENJOYED TALKING ABOUT MANY INTERESTING TOPICS."

/MR LI'S

MR LI'S ARRIVAL IN TORONTO TO MAKE A SPECIAL ADDRESS TO THE CONFERENCE ON HONG KONG AFFAIRS WAS WIDELY PUBLICISED BY THE MEDIA WITH THE RESULT THAT FORMER HONG KONG OFFICERS WERE WELL AWARE OF HIS VISIT.

AS A GUEST SPEAKER AT THE CONFERENCE, MR LI SPOKE ON HONG KONG AND ITS POLICE AND THE CRIME SITUATION WITH REFERENCE TO ALLEGATIONS THAT THERE IS AN EXODUS TAKING PLACE FROM HONG KONG OF TRIADS WANTING TO LEAVE THE TERRITORY AS 1997 APPROACHES.

MR LI ALSO DISCUSSED HONG KONG IN RELATION TO INTERNATIONAL CRIME, INCLUDING NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING.

HIS PRESENTATION IN PUTTING THE HONG KONG CRIME SCENE INTO PERSPECTIVE WAS WELL RECEIVED BY DELEGATES.

"I COUNTERED SPECULATION THAT LARGE NUMBERS OF WEALTHY CRIMINALS ARE LEAVING HONG KONG BECAUSE OF THE APPROACH OF 1997," MR LI SAID. "HONG KONG IS NOT EXPORTING CRIMINALS."

MR LI DESCRIBED THE ALLEGATIONS AS MAINLY MEDIA SPECULATION.

THE WEALTH OF HONG KONG, HE SAID, WAS THE RESULT OF STABLE GOVERNMENT, LOW TAXATION, A FREE TRADE POLICY WHICH ALLOWED DEVELOPMENT AND COMPETITION AND THE INDUSTRY AND HARD WORK OF HONG KONG PEOPLE.

"THE NUMBER OF CRIMINALS PROPORTIONATELY IS NEGLIGIBLE," MR LI SAID.

"STRINGENT PRE-EMIGRATION VETTING BY HOST COUNTRIES AND CLOSE CO-OPERATION WITH THE LIAISON OFFICE OF HONG KONG POLICE PREVENTS CRIMINALS FROM EVEN LEAVING HONG KONG IN THE FIRST PLACE."

THE RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS GATHERED TO HOST A DINNER PARTY IN MR LI'S HONOUR AT A RESTAURANT IN TORONTO'S CHINATOWN.

AMONG THOSE HE MET WERE MR WONG CHOY, WHO RETIRED IN 1967; MR LAM YIU, WHO SERVED WITH MR LI WHEN HE FIRST JOINED THE FORCE IN 1958; MR GEORGE WONG, A FORMER PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE NOW WORKING FOR THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT; MR GEORGE COWLEY, NOW WITH THE TORONTO METROPOLITAN POLICE; MR LI SUNG, RECENTLY RETIRED AND AN EARLY COLLEAGUE OF MR LI KWAN-HA; AND MR GEORGE WANG, WHO WAS WITH MR LI AT POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL.

"MANY OF THE OFFICERS HAVE TAKEN UP SECOND CAREERS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN CANADA AND ARE DOING WELL," MR LI SAID. "ALL OF THOSE PRESENT WERE HEALTHY, CHEERFUL AND DOING WELL IN THEIR ENDEAVOURS."

"THEY ASKED ME TO SEND THEIR COMPLIMENTS TO FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES IN HONG KONG."

MR LI SAID PLANS WERE BEING MADE FOR THE FORMATION OF AN EX-HONG KONG POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION IN TORONTO AND OTHER CITIES IN ONTARIO PROVINCE.

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DTC'S REGISTERED

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THE ACTING COMMISSIONER OF BANKING ANNOUNCED THAT TWO COMPANIES HAVE BEEN REGISTERED AS DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES TODAY (FRIDAY) UNDER SECTION 21(1) OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE.

THEY ARE KEXIM ASIA LIMITED; AND KOREA-JAPAN FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

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MORE PRIVATE FIRMS PARTICIPATE IN CLEAN HK CAMPAIGN

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MORE PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS HAVE RESPONDED TO THE APPEAL FROM THE JOINT URBAN COUNCIL/REGIONAL COUNCIL KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN STEERING COMMITTEE BY PLEDGING THEIR SUPPORT TO THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN.

THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN TODAY (FRIDAY) SAW THE LAN KWAI FONG TENANTS COMMITTEE JOIN HANDS WITH URBAN COUNCILLORS AND MEMBERS OF THE JOINT COUNCIL COMMITTEE IN A CLEAN-UP OPERATION HELD OUTSIDE A NEWLY OPENED REFUSE COLLECTION POINT AT LAN KWAI FONG.

THE OPERATION WAS PART OF A COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SCHEME ORGANISED BY THE JOINT COUNCIL COMMITTEE TO SOLICIT MORE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN KEEPING HONG KONG CLEAN.

"SINCE THE COMMITTEE HAS TAKEN CHARGE OF THE CAMPAIGN, IT HAS RECKONED THAT COMMUNITY'S ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IS THE ULTIMATE ANSWER TO THE SUCCESS OF THE CAMPAIGN," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE JOINT COUNCIL COMMITTEE SAID.

"DURING THE PAST YEAR, WE HAVE MADE SOME PROGRESS IN THIS FRONT, WITH MORE THAN 30 BIG ORGANISATIONS AND PRIVATE BODIES RESPONDING TO OUR APPEAL AND TAKING PART IN OUR ACTIVITIES.

"WITH THIS SUCCESS BEHIND US, WE ARE ENCOURAGED TO WIDEN THE SCOPE BY ORGANISING A COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SCHEME SO THAT A WIDER SECTOR OF THE COMMUNITY WILL BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CAMPAIGN."

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE COMMITTEE HAD APPOINTED A PUBLIC RELATIONS CONSULTANT, BENTLEY DDB NEEDHAM PUBLIC RELATIONS, TO ASSIST IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHEME.

/PRESENT TODAY

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PRESENT TODAY IN THE CLEAN-UP OPERATION WERE URBAN COUNCILLOR AND CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT COUNCIL COMMITTEE, MR WALTER SULKE, URBAN COUNCILLOR, MR PETER CHAN; CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE LAN KWAI FONG TENANTS COMMITTEE, MR DICK KAUFMAN; AND MEMBERS OF THE TENANTS COMMITTEE.

THE OPERATION WAS FOLLOWED BY A TREE PLANTING EXERCISE IN THE SITTING-OUT AREA ADJACENT TO THE REFUSE COLLECTION POINT.

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SAI KUNG DB TO DISCUSS EDUCATION REPORT

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MEMBERS OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD WILL GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON THE EDUCATION COMMISSION REPORT NO. 3 AT A MEETING TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

A MEMBER OF THE EDUCATION COMMISSION, MR YEUNG PO-KWAN, WILL BRIEF MEMBERS ON THE REPORT.

IN OTHER MATTERS, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE WILL PRESENT TWO PROPOSALS FOR LAND RESUMPTION IN SAI KUNG.

THE FIRST PROPOSAL IS THE RESUMPTION OF LAND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SAI KUNG TOWN, PACKAGE 5, PHASE I TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL HOUSING AND IMPROVED FACILITIES FOR THIS LOCALITY.

THE OTHER PROPOSAL IS THE RESUMPTION OF LAND IN TUI MIN HOI, FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE SAI KUNG OUTDOOR RECREATION CENTRE, STAGE II.

A LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, DR RICHARD LAI, WILL ATTEND THE MEETING TO REPORT ON HIS WORK IN THE COUNCIL OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE A PROPOSAL TO DESIGNATE NGAU WAN AS A MARICULTURE ZONE; A PROGRESS REPORT BY THE BOARD'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, MR WAN YUET-KAU; AND A PROGRESS REPORT OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

A WORKING GROUP ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF JUNK BAY NEW TOWN WILL ALSO GIVE ITS FIRST PROGRESS REPORT AT THE MEETING.

/COMPRISING FIVE

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COMPRISING FIVE DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE GROUP WAS FORMED AT THE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING ON JUNE 4.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD MEETING BEGINNING AT 10 AM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD, SECOND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES, CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN.

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DB TO HOLD BASIC LAW EXHIBITIONS

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TWO EXHIBITIONS ON THE DRAFT BASIC LAW WILL BE STAGED IN CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT FROM NEXT WEEK.

ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD, THE EXHIBITIONS ARE AIMED AT PROMOTING PUBLIC INTEREST AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE DRAFT.

THEY WILL BE HELD AT WORLD WIDE HOUSE IN CENTRAL FROM MONDAY TO SATURDAY (AUGUST 1 - 6) AND AT CHONG YIP CENTRE IN SAI YING PUN FROM TUESDAY TO SUNDAY (AUGUST 2 - 7). THEY WILL BE OPEN FROM 10 AM TO 6 PM DAILY.

AN OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 4.30 PM ON MONDAY (AUGUST 1) AT WORLD WIDE HOUSE.

OFFICIATING GUESTS WILL INCLUDE A MEMBER OF THE BASIC LAW CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, MR VINCENT LO HONG-SUI; A LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR LIU LIT-FOR; AND DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR LAU HON-CHUEN.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE EXHIBITION ON THE DRAFT BASIC LAW, ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD AT 4.30 PM ON MONDAY (AUGUST 1) IN THE LOBBY, GROUND FLOOR, WORLD WIDE HOUSE.

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SUMMER CARNIVAL IN TUEN MUN

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THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME ORGANISING COMMITTEE WILL PRESENT A SPECTACULAR "GOLD COAST" CARNIVAL ON SUNDAY (JULY 31) AS A HIGHLIGHT OF THE THREE-MONTH SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME.

THE CARNIVAL, WHICH IS SPONSORED BY THE SINO GROUP, WILL BE HELD FROM 2 PM TO 6 PM AT THE RECLAIMED AREA BETWEEN PEARL ISLAND AND CAFETERIA NEW BEACH.

THERE WILL BE A VARIETY SHOW FEATURING DISC JOCKEYS FROM COMMERCIAL RADIO, STALL GAMES AS WELL AS WATERSPORTS ACTIVITIES SUCH AS CANOEING, WINDSURFING AND SWIMMING. INSTRUCTORS AND EQUIPMENT WILL BE PROVIDED.

CHILDREN WILL BE TREATED TO A PARADE FEATURING THE FLYING ELEPHANT AND OTHER POPULAR CARTOON FIGURES, WHILE THOSE AGED BELOW 12 YEARS CAN PLAY INSIDE THE INFLATABLE TENTS. A LUCKY DRAW WILL BE HELD AT 5.30 PM.

ADMISSION TO THE CARNIVAL IS FREE. TICKETS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE VENUE ON THAT DAY AND EACH PARTICIPANT WILL RECEIVE A SUN HAT, SOFT DRINKS, ICE-CREAM AND SNACKS.

TWO FREE SHUTTLE BUS SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED TO TAKE RESIDENTS TO THE VENUE. BUSES WILL BE RUNNING FROM THE TUEN MUN PLAZA (NEAR THE TOWN HALL RESTAURANT) AND FROM THE TSUEN WAN MTR STATION TO THE VENUE EVERY 30 MINUTES BETWEEN NOON AND 6.30 PM.

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MORE TIME TO APPLY FOR FESTIVAL FUNDS

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RESIDENTS' ORGANISATIONS AND LOCAL BODIES IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT HAVE BEEN GIVEN MORE TIME TO SEEK SPONSORSHIP FROM THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE FOR ORGANISING MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES. THE NEW DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS AUGUST 5.

APPLICATIONS WERE DUE TO CLOSE EARLIER THIS MONTH.

HOWEVER, THE DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO ENABLE THE COMMITTEE TO DISTRIBUTE A RECENT URBAN COUNCIL MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL GRANT OF \$20,000 IN ADDITION TO ITS \$135,000 FESTIVITY FUNDS.

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/"ALL APPLICATIONS

"ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD INCLUDE A BRIEF RESUME OF THE APPLICANT, CONTENTS OF THE PROGRAMME TO BE ORGANISED AND A BREAKDOWN OF ASSOCIATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE," A DISTRICT BOARD SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

"THEY SHOULD REACH THE COMMITTEE THROUGH THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE BEFORE 5 PM ON AUGUST 5. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL ONLY BE CONSIDERED UNDER EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES," HE ADDED.

THE COMMITTEE WILL HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING IN MID-AUGUST TO CONSIDER EACH APPLICATION CAREFULLY BEFORE DECIDING ON THE AMOUNT OF GRANT TO BE GIVEN.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE TO THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE ON 5-540271.

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POLICE REMINDER ON OVERLOADING

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POLICE TODAY (FRIDAY) REMINDED OWNERS AND DRIVERS NOT TO PERMIT OVERLOADED VEHICLES ON THE ROADS OF HONG KONG.

THIS FOLLOWS A RECENT COURT CASE IN NORTH KOWLOON MAGISTRACY IN WHICH A 34-YEAR-OLD GOODS VEHICLE DRIVER WAS GAOLED FOR RECKLESS DRIVING.

A TRAFFIC POLICE SPOKESMAN SAID IT WAS CURRENT ENFORCEMENT POLICY THAT A CHARGE OF RECKLESS DRIVING WOULD BE LAID, IN ADDITION TO OVERLOADING, IF THE BRAKING EFFICIENCY OF THE VEHICLE WAS SEVERELY EFFECTED BY THE EXTRA LOAD.

IN THIS CASE THE OFFENDING VEHICLE WAS IN POOR CONDITION WITH BRAKE EFFICIENCY BARELY ADEQUATE TO COPE WITH ITS PERMITTED GROSS WEIGHT. ALTHOUGH ONLY 41 PER CENT OVERLOADED THE BRAKING EFFICIENCY HAD DROPPED TO 37.8 PER CENT.

THE RISK TO OTHER ROAD USERS HAD BEEN HEIGHTENED AS THE DRIVER WAS NOT COVERED BY ANY INSURANCE AGAINST THIRD PARTY RISKS.

THE DEFENDANT PLEADED GUILTY TO ALL CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST HIM. HE WAS FINED A TOTAL OF \$1,500 AND SENTENCED TO ONE MONTH'S IMPRISONMENT FOR DRIVING WHILST DISQUALIFIED AND A MONTH FOR RECKLESS DRIVING, THE TWO PERIODS TO RUN CONCURRENTLY. HE WAS DISQUALIFIED FROM DRIVING FOR THREE YEARS.

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SUNDAY CLOSURE OF ED'S MEDIA PRODUCTION SERVICES UNIT
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THE MEDIA PRODUCTION SERVICES UNIT OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IN TSIM SHA TSUI WILL BE CLOSED TEMPORARILY ON ALL SUNDAYS DURING THE SUMMER VACATION AND FROM AUGUST 5 TO 20 FOR OVERHAUL OF EQUIPMENT.

THE UNIT, LOCATED AT 182 CANTON ROAD, WILL RE-OPEN ON AUGUST 22 AND SUBSEQUENTLY OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK. HOWEVER, IT WILL BE CLOSED ON AUGUST 27, 28 AND 29 AND ON OTHER PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

THE OPENING HOURS ARE FROM 9 AM TO 12.30 PM AND FROM 1.30 PM TO 5 PM DAILY, EXCEPT ON FRIDAY WHEN THE AFTERNOON OPENING HOURS WILL BE EXTENDED TO 7 PM.

THE UNIT PROVIDES FACILITIES FOR TEACHERS TO PRODUCE VARIOUS KINDS OF MEDIA RESOURCES FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING. FACILITIES FOR SCREEN PRINTING, AUDIO-RECORDING AND VIDEO PRODUCTION SHOULD BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE.

TEACHERS MAY EITHER BRING THEIR OWN MATERIALS OR PURCHASE THESE MATERIALS FROM A CONTRACTED SUPPLIER AT THE UNIT FOR PRODUCING THE TEACHING AIDS.

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GOVERNMENT LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER
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THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT IS OFFERING A SITE IN YUEN LONG FOR SALE BY TENDER.

THE SITE, WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 1,100 SQUARE METRES, IS LOCATED IN KAM TIN ROAD NEAR KAM TIN CLINIC, AND WILL BE USED FOR A PETROL FILLING STATION INCLUDING LUBRICATING OR SERVICING FACILITIES.

THE PETROL FILLING STATION WILL HAVE TO BEGIN OPERATION ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 31, 1990.

THE DEADLINE FOR ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERS IS NOON ON AUGUST 26.

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TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURES ON TOLO HIGHWAY

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TRAFFIC LANES ON TOLO HIGHWAY WILL BE CLOSED IN TURN ON THREE CONSECUTIVE MONDAYS AND TUESDAYS NEXT MONTH TO FACILITATE ROAD MAINTENANCE WORK.

ON AUGUST 1 (MONDAY) AND 2, THE MOST OUTER FAST LANE OF TOLO HIGHWAY SOUTHBOUND NEAR PAK SHEK KOK BRIDGE WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC.

THE MOST OUTER FAST LANE OF TOLO HIGHWAY SOUTHBOUND BETWEEN ISLAND HOUSE INTERCHANGE AND SHUI WAI INTERCHANGE WILL BE CLOSED ON AUGUST 8 AND 9.

THE MOST OUTER FAST LANE OF TOLO HIGHWAY SOUTHBOUND NEAR SHUI WAI INTERCHANGE WILL BE CLOSED ON AUGUST 15 AND 16.

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